

we have for the church. As Jacob wrought seven years for his fair cousin Rachel "and they appeared short because of his love for her" so should we work gladly for the church for the same laudable reason. Brethren and sisters, let me say again, that, in my humble opinion, "the institutions of the church must be endowed."

THE COVERING

I received a communication from our dear Brother J. B. Wampler in answer to the following questions. It did me good. By Brother Wampler's consent we send the answers for publication, hoping it may do others good:

1. Can you give me the history and introduction of the "Cap"? When and why introduced?
2. When did it take the form of a special prayer covering?
3. When was the bonnet introduced as women's apparel?

Answer 1. Cap wearing was universal as a custom among ladies and girls. It was also the custom for infants of both sexes to wear them. Hence all Christian women wore caps in their several churches and various denominations,—not only at the time of communion services but on all occasions. Hence communed with their covering on their heads according to the custom of the age in which they lived. But when the custom began to change some thought that church members must continue to wear the cap, and not follow the fashions of the world—(as they called it.) Some of the brethren and sisters could not see the scripture command for the observance of the custom. They became disobedient and that brought the matter into church conference. This is my conception of the introduction of the cap question.

Answer 2. Never Biblically as an ordinance. By A. M. legislation the cap wearing by the sisterhood was made an ordinance and termed a prayer covering, and more recently termed a spiritual covering.

Answer 3. This I cannot answer definitely, but I presume sometime during the nineteenth century as a church rule or custom by the German Baptist Brethren.

In our first organization in 1708 and for many years "We had no such custom neither the churches of God" (Paul.) The word cap is not found in the New Testament, and as used by those who exalt it equal to the ordinances of the Christian church it is not a covering in *fact*. The scripture quoted in support of the cap is greatly misused. The veil or covering spoken of by the Apostle Paul was the expediency under the then existing circumstances at Corinth. Hence the apostle tells them that "If any man be contentious, we have no such custom neither the churches of God."

Let us look at the new covenant and consider Jesus Christ as the testator of his Father's will, or Testament and whatever is

brought over from the first into the second can be executed, but that which is left out becomes void, and cannot be executed. All the priestly robes were omitted in the new covenant, therefore are void. In the new covenant the Great Head of the church did not prescribe any form or mode of dress for the children of the bride-chamber, only the robe of righteousness.

See Matt. 6. There we find that the Christ of God has very strongly denounced the putting on of outward marks to show inward piety or religion. All such lay up treasures upon earth, and have for their reward the praise of men. Jesus said, "Wash your faces and anoint your heads" (according to the custom of the community and age in which we live.) "Pray in secret and your Father which seeth will reward thee openly."

By living the Christ life we lay up treasures in heaven. Not by marks on our faces, heads or backs in special cuts of coats, caps, hats or any other clothing we have wherewith to appear respectable, but not ostentatious. The following seems logical to my feeble conception.

1. Jesus Christ the great head of the church delivered all the ordinances essential to man's salvation during his life and ministry.

2. Jesus Christ the great head of the church did not deliver anything relating to the wearing of caps or bonnets during his life and ministry. Therefore the wearing of caps and bonnets is not an ordinance delivered by Jesus Christ and is not essential to salvation.

3. Jesus Christ did not after his resurrection during the forty days he was with the apostles teach them or any other persons concerning the wearing of caps and bonnets. Therefore the wearing of caps and bonnets is no evidence of the Christ life in those who wear them.

4. Jesus Christ sent the apostles to make disciples of all nations, and to teach them to observe all things he commanded them. The apostles went forth preaching the gospel with signs following, but did not preach or teach that sisters should wear caps or bonnets. Therefore, inasmuch as neither Christ nor the apostles taught or commanded the custom as an ordinance, or even a religious rite or ceremony. It therefore has no spirituality connected with its observance—hence we have no such custom, neither the churches of God.

The Home

Castles in the Air

MRS. GEO. W. BOSS

Building castles in the air,
As the days are going;
Stately mansions they appear,
In the mirage showing.

All you long for in this world
In them have their places,
Friends and books and sweet repose,
Time for all the graces.

Children, happy in their play,
Calling you their mother;
You rejoicing in your love,
Leaning on each other.

Spreading happiness around,
With our love as leaven;
Such a joyous little band,
Making home a heaven.

Vanish castles in the air!
Where is now their beauty?
Yet sink not in deep despair
On the path of duty.

Build your castles in the air,
Higher yet, my dear one;
Up in heaven with those you love,
There shall soon appear one.

All you crave most shall be there,
Answered be your longing;
And the children whom you mourn,
To your arms come thronging.

—New York Observer.

Just in Time to Catch the Train

Margaret Battome.

I often say these words when the train moves off and I have been just in time, but I am thinking now of other trains that are moving and opportunities that are passing. I am thinking of that picture of the woman who was just in time with her precious box of ointment, who did not think the burial was so near, and who heard the words, "She is come aforehand to anoint my body to the burying."

We need often to heed the word quickly—we put off until it is too late, and then we say: "Oh, if I had only written that letter I intended to write. If I had only told her that I loved her—I meant to do it. Why didn't I do the thing I intended to do?" Just because you forgot that word "quickly." You put it off, and the burial came before your anointing. Your sweet spices, your flowers are of no account now. You put the flowers in her hand too late. You perfumed the room after she was cold. What she needed was the perfume of love while she was alive. When she was hungry for the sweet words of love, it would have been everything for her to have had you notice when she looked tired and to have heard you say, "Haven't you been working harder than usual?" The food the human heart needs is love!

Advice for Boys

The Christian Intelligencer.

Under the caption, "If I Were You, My Boy," an exchange says:

"I wouldn't be ashamed to do right anywhere. I would not do anything that I would not be willing for everybody to know.

"I wouldn't conclude that I knew more than my father before I had been fifty miles away from home.

"I wouldn't go into the company of boys who use bad language.

"I wouldn't get into the skulks and pout whenever I couldn't have my own way about everything.